

More Essential Commodities through Fair Price Shops

3306. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to provide more essential commodities for consumers through Fair Price Shop;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the sections of society who are likely to be benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) A scheme titled "Sarvapriya" has been launched in July, 2000. It envisages distribution of eleven selected commodities of daily use viz., Arhar Dal, Gram Dal, Malka Red, Urad Whole, Salt, Tea, Toilet Soaps, Detergent cake, Exercise Note Books, Edible oil and Tooth Paste. The National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Ltd. (NCCF) which is the apex body of consumer cooperative in the country, has been nominated as the nodal agency to implement the scheme which will supply quality goods. The State Food and Civil Supplies Departments would monitor the distribution arrangements in their States. The State Governments have the option to choose the items as per their requirement/preferences. The items will be distributed on no profit no loss basis in suitable consumer packs through the existing PDS outlets, retail unit of Civil Supplies Corporations and Consumer Cooperatives or other agencies as may be decided by the respective State Governments.

(c) The scheme is intended to provide relief to all consumers especially those belonging to the low income group as well as to those belonging to the weaker sections of the society, in rural and urban areas.

Sale of Old Stocks of Wheat and Rice

3307. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Committee in the Food Corporation of India to expedite sale of old stocks of wheat and rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has made any recommendation in this regard;

(d) whether it is a fact that State Governments are not lifting the allocated quota of wheat and rice; and